

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1903

BY F. P. DUNNE

MR. DOOLEY ON THE AMERICAN FAMILY

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"Is th' race givin' out?" asked Mr. Dooley.

"Is it what?" replied Mr. Hennessy.

"Is it dyin' out?" said Mr. Dooley. "Th' ministers an' me frind Dock Elliot iv Harvard say it is. Dock Elliot wud know different if he was a rale dock an' wint flyin' up Halsted street in a buggy, floggin' a white horse to be there on time. But he ain't an' he's sure it's dyin' out. Childer ar-re disappearin' fr'm America. He took a squint at th' list iv Harvard gradjates th' other day an' discovered that they had ivrythin' to make home happy but kids. Wanest th' wuruld was full iv little Harvard. Th' country swarmed with thim. Ye cud tell a Harvard man at wanest be a look at his feet. He had th' unmistakable cradle foot. It was no strange thing to see an' of Harvard man comin' back to his almy mather, pushin' a baby carriage full iv twins an' a baby in a family that looked like an advertisement in th' newspapers to show th' percentage iv purity iv bakin' powders. President Elliot was often disturbed in a discourse, pintin' out th' dangers iv th' country, he th' outcries iv th' progeny iv fair Harvard. The campus was full iv baby carriages on commencement day, an' special accommodations had to be took fr' nurses. In thim happy days somewan was always teethin' in a Harvard family. It looked as if ivybody th' wuruld wud be peopled with Harvard men an' th' Chinese wud have to pass an Exclusion Act. But somethin' has happened to Harvard. She is producin' no little rah-rah to glad th' wuruld. Th' av'rage Harvard man iv th' present day is th' last iv his race. No artless prattle is heard in his home. Nor fr' him th' joys iv trundlin' th' little push-cart in th' park or th' blind reach fr' th' soothin' syrup in th' darkened room. When Harvard needs a fresh batch iv scholars an' quarter backs she has to call fr' a new deal. An' me frind President Elliot is sore about it an' he has communicated th' sad fact to th' clergy. Nawthin' th' clergy likes so much as a sad fact. Lave wan iv me frinds iv th' clergy know that we're goin' to th' divins in a new way an' he's happy. We used to take th' journey be comin' out neibor's ox or his ass or be disobeyin' our parents, but now we have no parents to disobey or tney have no childer to disobey thim. Th' American people is becomin' as unfruitful as an ash heap. We nee no better thim th' Frinch. They say th' pleasin' squawk iv an infant hasn't been heard in France since th' Franco-Prussian war. Th' government offers prizes fr' families, but no wan claims thim. A Frinch gentleman who wud go to Germany wanst has made a good deal iv money lecturin' on 'Wild Babies I Have Met,' but ivrywan says he's a faker. Ye can't convince anywan in France that there are any babies goin' th' same way. Less thim three million babies was bor-n in th' country las' year. Think iv it, Hennessy—less thim three million, hardly enough to consume wan-tenth

iv th' output iv pins! It's a horrible thought. I don't blame ivry wan, fr'm Tiddy Rosenfeld down, fr' worryin' about it.

"What's th' cause, says ye?" I don't know. I've been readin' th' newspapers an' ivrybody's been teelin'

seems to meet th' bill. I've been lookin' at th' arguments pro an' con, an' I come to th' conclusion that th' race is dyin' out only in spots. It's dyin' out among Harvard gradjates but it's holdin' its own among the alumnuses in Saint Patrick's Commercial Academy

rale dock. He has a horse an' buggy. He's out so much at night that th' polis ar-re always stoppin' him thinkin' he is a burglar. Th' dock has prepared some statistics fr' me, an' here they ar-re: Number iv twins bor-n in Ar-rehey Road fr'm Halsted shreet

parents, wan hundred and eighty-five; av'rage size iv rooms, nine be eight; av'rage height iv ceilin', nine feet; av'rage wages, wan dollar, shivty-five; av'rage duration iv docter's bills, two hundred years.

"I took the statistics to Father Kelly. He's an on-prejudiced man, an' if th' race was dyin' out he wud have had a soundin' board in his pulpit long ago, so that whin he mentioned th' wuruld 'Hell,' ivrywan in th' congregation wud have thought he meant him or her. I think," says Father Kelly, "that Dock Grogan is a little wrong in his figures. He's boastin'. In this parish I allow twelve births to wan marriage. It varies, iv course, beln' sometimes as low as nine an' sometimes as high as fifteen. But twelve is about th' av'rage," he says. "If ye see Dock Elliot," he says, "ye can tell him th' race ain't dyin' out very bad in this here part iv th' wuruld. On th' contrary, it ain't able to yerther," he says, "unless wages is raised," he says. "Th' poor ar-re becomin' richer in childer an' th' rich poorer," he says. "It's always th' way," he says. "Th' bigger th' house th' smaller th' family, Michigan av'rage is always thinnin' out fr'm itself an' growin' fr'm th' efforts iv Ar-rehey Road. Tis a way Nature has iv gettin' aven with th' rich an' pow'ful. Wan part iv town has nawthin' but money an' an' other nawthin' but childer. A man with tin dollars a week will have tin childer, a man with wan hundred dollars will have five, an' a man with a million will buy an autyomobile. Ye can tell Schwartzmeister with his thirteen little Hansas an' Helens that he don't have to throw no bones to make room fr' his childer. Th' people over in Michigan av'rage will do that thimself. Nature," he says, "is a wild dimmy-crut," he says.

"I guess he's right. I'm goin' to ask Dock Elliot, Tiddy Rosenfeld an' all th' rest iv thim to come up Ar-rehey R-road some summer's afternoon an' show thim th' way th' race is dyin' out. Th' front stoops is full iv childer; they block th' throlley cars; they're shyn' bricks at th' polis, pullin' up coal-hole covers, playin' ring-around-th'-rosy, shootin' dice, makin' paper dolls, goin' to Sunday school, hurryin' with th' sprinklin' pot to th' place at th' corner an' indulgin' in other sports iv childhood. Pah-pah is settin' on th' steps, ma is larin' out iv th' window gassin' with th' neibors, an' a squad iv polis ar-re th' front stoops keepin' th' christenin' parties fr'm mobbin'. Father Kelly, while he intrajouces wan thousand little Michaels, Patricks, Janses, Robert Immits, Kates, Bridgess, Mary Anns or James or William to th' Roman society, No, sir, th' race, far fr'm dyin' out in Ar-rehey R-road, is runnin' alse an' comin' strong."

"Ye ought to be ashamed to talk about such subjects, ye, an' all batch," said Mr. Hennessy. "It's a seeryous question."

"How many childer have ye?" asked Mr. Dooley.

"Lave me see," said Mr. Hennessy. "Wan, two, four, five, eight, seven, eight, three—that's not right. Lave me see. Ah, yes, I forgot Terence. We have fourteen."

"If the race of Hennessys dies out," said Mr. Dooley, "it'll be fr'm overcrownin'."



"Me frind Dock Elliot, in Harvard, says th' race is dyin' out."

Pushin' a Baby Carroddge Full iv Twins."

"Hurryin' with th' sprinklin' pot to th' place on th' corner."

why. Late marriages, early marriages, no marriages, th' cost iv livin', th' luxuries iv th' day, th' tariff, th' trusts, th' spots on th' sun, th' difficulty iv obtainin' an' implement, th' growth iv culture, th' pitcher hat, an' so on. Ivrybody's got a ralsion, but none iv thim

in Desplaines shreet. Th' av'rage size iv th' family in Michigan av'rage is .000001, but the av'rage size iv th' family in Ar-rehey Road is somewhat larger. After I r-read what Dock Elliot had to say, I ast me frind Dock Grogan what he thought about it. He's a

to Western av'rage fr'm Janoary wan to Janoary wan, 365 pairs; number iv thirps iv thirps in th' same fiscal year, nine; number iv ivybody voters, eighty-three thousand, nine hundred an' forty-two; av'rage size iv family, fourteen; av'rage weight iv

THE MODERN FABLE OF THE LECTURE TICKETS THAT WERE BOUGHT BUT NEVER USED

MODERN FABLES BY GEORGE W. W. DE

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ONCE there was a Man living in a Big Town and he had a Cousin whom he never had seen. Some people are very lucky as to their Relatives.

The Man who lived in the Wicked Metropolis was named Sanford and the Cousin who lived out in the Woods was known as Lave, although his real Name was Lafayette.

Every Christmas Sanford would send Lave some kind of a stinky Gift, and then Lave would retaliate by shipping in a fat Turkey for Thanksgiving. There was a formal Exchange of Letters about twice per Year.

Sanford was a good deal Upset one day to receive Word that Cousin Lave Fayette was coming to spend a Week. Whatever Joy he felt, he did not show at all. The visiting Cousin is liable to be a Pteroproposition under the most favorable Conditions, but it is more than Hard Luck to be saddled with one who is a Total Stranger. Sanford was hoping that the Train would run off the Track, but he wrote Cousin Lave to be sure and come right to the House.

Sanford saw a very pink wreck ahead of him. He was not very strong for the Chaperon Game. He could see himself neglecting Business in order to lead Cousin Lave around and show him the Sky-Scraper, the Animals in the Eden Musee and the big Engine in the Power-House. He had observed that the Excursionist is always keen to see a lot of Sights that are a Sealed Book to the Man who lives right in the City.

Sanford tries to get a Line on Cousin Lave so as to frame up the right kind of a Programme. He could tell by the Picture in the Family Album that Lave was a Pure Character and somewhat of a Bore. He wore a White Tie and had his Hair gummed down on his Forehead. He looked as if he would like to be a Preacher, but could not quite make it. His open Countenance had that sweet and trusting Expression of the Hubbard Squash who is willing to give two Tens for a Five.

So far as Sanford could learn, Cousin Lave was a kind of a Sign-Board and snow-white object Lesson in the Jay Town which claimed him as its own. He was a Cemetery Trustee and Chairman of the Committee to solicit Funds for a new Y. M. C. A. Building. Also he had been prominent in the Sunday-Closing Movement and the Main Kazoo in the Citizens' Reform League.

Accordingly Sanford had all the Drinkables removed from the Side-Board and he warned the Children not to Laugh while Cousin Lave was saying

Grace at the Table. Then he went out and bought some Tickets for a Lecture and got a written Permit to go through the Car-Shops.

He went to the Station to meet the rural Lamb and protect him against the Cabmen. He saw a Hot

"What do you think?" asked the President of the Yawpville Citizens' Reform League. "I got into a Poker Game with two of them Ikey Drummers on the Train and trimmed them for \$7 Samoleons. If the train had been a half hour late, I'd have got their Sample-

that I've left my Pajamas at Home, and you might as well move the Bed out of my Room, because I won't need it. If you have any Word to send to your Folks before we cut loose, step into the Box and telephone while they're still able to talk."



He could tell by the picture that Cousin Lave was a pure character.



The hot sport walloped him on the back and introduced himself.



"I'm all in," said the wreck.

Sport with a new Suit of Clothes and a Red Tie came through the door, but he did not spot anything that resembled a Cemetery Trustee. While he was still waiting, the Hot Sport came up and walloped him on the Back and introduced himself.

Cases. I've got a Roll here that would choke a Horse and I have a Feeling that I am about to Puy. We drank up everything in the Dining Car except the Catsup before we got to Springfield and I wouldn't take \$7 for my Thirst. By the way, I want to tell you

"What do you wish to see first of all, the Parks or the Power-House?" asked Sanford.

"If it's all the same to you," said the Cemetery Trustee, "I should like to begin my Vacation by putting a tall Crimp in the Guy that spins the little Ivory

Ball. Then you can send home for your Low-Neck and we will have a little Dinner Party. I have engaged the Louis XIV Room up at the Hotel. I have in my Car, two or three Letters of Introduction to well-known Society Ladies who are always at the party. This afternoon I expect to have all the Messenger Boys in Town Busy. When we sit down this Evening there will be \$8 worth of Violets and four Cock-tails at every Plate. I'll show these Possies that I'm no Piker. After the Eats we are going over and sit in all of the Boxes at that Rough House Show that I've been reading about. After that we are going to a nice, quiet all-night Restaurant where you can see the Hungarian Orchestra, and any one that passes away before 6 A. M. will be called a Quitter."

"Are you Cousin Lave or a Ringer?" asked Sanford.

"I am the Cemetery Trustee, all right, all right," was the reply. "A Cemetery Trustee breaks over only about once in Three Years, but when he does hit the Track he makes a Mile in 2:39 look like a Funeral Procession. For many Months I have been drinking Milk and posing as an Example for the Young. I live in one of those Towns where every living Soul knows how much I pay for my clothes and how many Lumps of Sugar I put in my Coffee. If I took a Drink out there, everybody would know about it in twenty Minutes. If I smoked a Cigarette, I would be hanged in fifteen. I might as well go out and kill an Aged Woman with a Hatchet as mix up in any Poker Games. So I do the Straight and Narrow. But now I'm up here among the Electric Lights with no one to keep Cases on me. I am long on Sleep and I have Money in every Pocket. I'm up here to play a short Engagement as the Village Indian. If you care to follow me, I think I can put you in right and probably show you good many Places that you never saw before, even if you do live right in Town."

Sanford tried to be Game, but in two Days Cousin Lave had him Down and out. He fell back and took the Train. Cousin Lave took him Home in a Hack and roasted him and told him he was a Kinesstone Sport and a Mackerel.

"I'm all in," said the Wreck. "I admit everything you say. The Man who lives in Town and thinks he's a Guy, he ain't a Marker alongside of the Respectable Citizen from down the Road. I am supposed to be a dissolute Clubman, but I take off my Hat to a Cemetery Trustee."

Cousin Lave went back to the Country and reported that Sanford was a Nice Man, but seemed to be a little Wild.

MORAL: Don't try to keep up with any Pillar of Society.

IV.—MR. HOMES REACHES AN UNHISTORICAL CONCLUSION

SHYLOCK HOMES: His Posthumous Memoirs

BY JOHN KENDRICK BANGS

IT WAS not long before I was made aware that there was to be no lack of occupation for me in the new sphere of my residence. The story of Le Coq's attempt to frighten me away from the practice of my profession soon got about, and it became more or less of a fad among the social lights of Chimeria to get up mysteries for my solution. Queen Elizabeth offered me a large sum of money—indeed, sent me in advance a cheque for a considerable amount—if I would attend one of her evening receptions and there give to her assembled guests evidences of my skill in such games as "Hiding the Handkerchief," and "Twenty Questions." Considering drawing room work beneath my dignity, I wrote my regrets on the back of the cheque and remailed it to the royal spinster, the story of which act, in some mysterious fashion, crept into print, and for a time served to win for me the enmity of the ex-queen, for which I was sincerely sorry, for I have always held the lady in the highest esteem. How the incident came to be published I do not know, for I certainly told no one but James Roswell and Paul Pry, of the editorial staff of the Gehenna Gazette, about it, and they both assure me that they have told none but their wives, under cover of confidence, of the episode.

For a period, feeling that I must become acclimated before undertaking professional work seriously, I kept close to my rooms at the hotel and declined many commissions, but one morning, about three weeks after my arrival, I was forced into action in a most peculiar fashion. While sitting alone in my room, immediately after breakfast, I became suddenly conscious that someone was looking at me, but from what precise quarter, I was unable immediately to determine. It was an uncanny feeling that came over me at first, and it made me somewhat uneasy, but I deemed it the part of wisdom in no way to

betray the fact that I was uncomfortable. I continued, therefore, to appear to read my morning paper, as if wholly unconscious of this piercing eye which I felt was fixed upon me. Occasionally I glanced casually about, as a man may naturally do, without giving evidence of a perturbed spirit, and began, by a mental process of elimination, to solve the question the problem presented. There was no one in the room but myself, so it was clear that my disturber was on the outside somewhere. Hence the placing of the intruder was not, to one of my habit of thought, wholly difficult. One glance in the direction of the window demonstrated beyond all peradventure that it was not thence that the annoyance sprang. It was several stories up from the street, and there was no coign of vantage upon which an intruder might stand. The door was closed, and the skylight of my apartment opened in an inner chamber, and not upon the room in which I sat. Consequently, my next thought was that the prying person, who was eagerly contemplating my person, was neither in the hall, nor upon the roof, but in a moment I had reason to modify this conclusion in so far as it related to the hall. I rose from my chair, and sauntered idly across the room, and was immediately relieved of the sensation which had disturbed me. It was evident that I was everywhere. Consequently, my next thought was that the prying person, who was eagerly contemplating my person, was neither in the hall, nor upon the roof, but in a moment I had reason to modify this conclusion in so far as it related to the hall. I rose from my chair, and sauntered idly across the room, and was immediately relieved of the sensation which had disturbed me. It was evident that I was everywhere. 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